

REMARKS

Claims 23, 24, 27 and 28 are pending. No new matter has been presented.

Claims 23, 24, 27 and 28 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Koike, U.S. Patent No. 6,181,805. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner asserts that the matching section 106 of Koike corresponds to the claimed feature of "a display unit for displaying an image registered in the image database." Applicants respectfully disagree. Koike's matching section 106 includes the position shifting section 108, a matching region cutout section 107A, a mosaic processing section 124 and a similarity computing section 107. Koike does not describe any of these sections as being a display. Merely because the captured image taken from the camera is *output* to the matching section 106 (see col. 4: 40-45) does not mean that the image is displayed. Further, merely because Koike's Fig. 3 shows an image does not mean that Koike's device actually ever displays an image. Fig. 3 is meant to represent that Koike computes the similarity between the matching region of the test image and the n-th dictionary image I_{Dn} (col. 5: 1-4). Thus, Koike fails to teach or suggest "a display unit for displaying an image registered in the image database." Furthermore, it does not appear that it is even necessary to display the image in Koike's device.

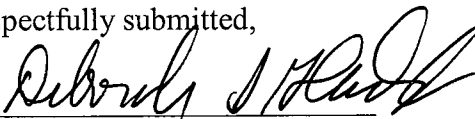
Claims 27 and 28 also recite the above-quoted feature and are allowable for the same reasons claim 23 is allowable. Claim 24 is allowable at least due to its dependency from claim 23. Applicants request that all outstanding rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 245402004000.

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Respectfully submitted,

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